Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic information management system for classification and ~~retrieval~~storage of documents, comprising:

a computer readable storage medium for storing an image of a document; and

a processor including:

image feature extracting means for extracting at least one ~~extracting a~~ feature of the image based on an instruction from a client, the feature associated with electronic information stored in storing means connected to a network;

deciding means for deciding whether the electronic information is to be deleted based on the feature extracted by the image feature extracting means and on a condition specified by the client; and

deleting means for deleting from the storing means via the network and via a deletion method specified by the client unnecessary electronic information decided to be deleted by the deciding means, the deleting means ~~includes~~ including means for deleting information that matches a predetermined ~~condition.~~condition, wherein:

one or more documents are classified by the extracted feature,

the extracted feature is at least one of a title of a document, a creation date of the document, a creator of the document, a file name of the document, an application name under which the document is created, a document keyword and a full text of the document, and

one or more documents containing unnecessary electronic information are deleted from the storage medium.

2. (Currently Amended) An electronic information management system for classification and storage~~retrieval~~ of documents, comprising:

storing means connected to a network for storing electronic information; and

~~a computer-readable storage medium for storing an image; and~~

a processor including:

image feature extracting means for extracting at least one ~~extracting a~~ feature of the image based on an instruction from a client, the feature associated with the electronic information stored in the storing means;

deciding means for deciding whether the electronic information is to be deleted based on the feature extracted by the image feature extracting means and on a condition specified by the client; and

deleting means for deleting from the storing means via a deletion method specified by the client unnecessary electronic information decided to be deleted by the deciding means, the deleting means ~~includes~~including means for deleting information that matches a predetermined ~~condition.~~ condition, wherein:

one or more documents are classified by the extracted feature,

the extracted feature is at least one of a title of a document, a creation date of the document, a creator of the document, a file name of the document, an application name under which the document is created, a document keyword and a full text of the document, and

one or more documents containing unnecessary electronic information are deleted from the storing means.

3. (Currently Amended) An electronic information management system for classification and storage~~retrieval~~ of documents, comprising:

storing means connected to a network for storing electronic information; and

~~a computer readable storage medium for storing an image; and~~

a processor including:

image feature extracting means for extracting at least one ~~extracting a~~ feature of the image, the feature associated with the electronic information stored in the storing means;

instructing and operating means for instructing the feature associated with the electronic information to be extracted;

deciding means for deciding whether the electronic information is to be deleted based on the feature and on a condition specified by the client; and

deleting means for deleting from the storing means via a deletion method specified by the client unnecessary electronic information that is decided to be deleted by the deciding means, the deleting means ~~includes~~including means for deleting information that matches a predetermined ~~condition.~~ condition, wherein:

one or more documents are classified by the extracted feature,

the extracted feature is at least one of a title of a document, a creation date of the document, a creator of the document, a file name of the document, an application name under which the document is created, a document keyword and a full text of the document, and

one or more documents containing unnecessary electronic information are deleted from the storing means.

4. (Currently Amended) The electronic information management server according to claim 1, wherein the extracted feature further comprises ~~is~~ at least one of an aspect ratio of the image, a color distribution information of the image, a brightness distribution information of the image, and an edge distribution information of the image.

5. (Previously Presented) The electronic information management according to claim 1, wherein the deciding means decides whether the electronic information is to be deleted based on the client-specified condition including a condition that a first symbol encoded in the image corresponds to a second symbol associated with the electronic information.

6. (Previously Presented) The electronic information management server according to claim 1, wherein the deciding means decides whether the electronic information is to be deleted based on a feature of a second image similar to the image.

7. (Original) The electronic information management server according to claim 1, wherein the deciding means decides that other electronic information related to specific electronic information is also deleted together with the specific electronic information decided to be deleted based on the feature.

8. (Previously Presented) The electronic information management server according to claim 1, further comprising:

temporarily storing means for temporarily storing electronic information sent via a network, wherein

the deleting means deletes the unnecessary electronic information stored in the temporarily storing means at a predetermined timing.

9. (Previously Presented) The electronic information management server according to claim 8, wherein the deleting means deletes the unnecessary electronic information from the temporarily storing means after a predetermined period of time has elapsed.

10. (Currently Amended) The electronic information management server according to claim 1, wherein the client is an electronic information management client for classification and storage~~retrieval~~ of documents that instructs deletion of unnecessary

electronic information stored in storing means connected to a network, the electronic information management client comprising:

instructing and operating means for instructing a feature associated with the electronic information to be deleted.

11. (Original) The electronic information management client according to claim 10, further comprising inputting means for inputting the feature and transferring it to the instructing and operating means.

12. (Currently Amended) An electronic information management method for classifying and storing~~retrieving~~ documents, comprising:

extracting at least one ~~extracting a~~ feature of an image of a document, the feature associated with electronic information stored in storing means connected to a network;

deciding whether the electronic information is to be deleted based on the feature previously extracted based on an instruction from a client; and

deleting from the storing means via the network and via a deletion method specified by the client unnecessary electronic information that is decided to be deleted, the deleting further ~~includes~~including deleting electronic information that matches a predetermined ~~condition.~~ condition, wherein:

one or more documents are classified by the extracted feature,

the extracted feature is at least one of a title of a document, a creation date of the document, a creator of the document, a file name of the document, an application name under which the document is created, a document keyword and a full text of the document, and

one or more documents containing unnecessary electronic information are deleted from the storing means.

13. (Currently Amended) An electronic information management method for classifying and storing~~retrieving~~ documents, comprising:

storing predetermined electronic information;

extracting at least one ~~extracting a~~ feature of an image of a document, the feature associated with the stored electronic information;

deciding whether the electronic information is to be deleted based on the feature previously extracted based on an instruction from a client; and

deleting unnecessary electronic information that is decided to be deleted via a deletion method specified by the client, the deleting ~~includes~~including deleting electronic information that matches a predetermined ~~condition.~~ condition, wherein:

one or more documents are classified by the extracted feature,

the extracted feature is at least one of a title of a document, a creation date of the document, a creator of the document, a file name of the document, an application name under which the document is created, a document keyword and a full text of the document, and

one or more documents containing unnecessary electronic information are deleted from the stored electronic information.

14. (Currently Amended) The electronic information management method according to claim 12, wherein the extracted feature further comprises ~~is~~ at least one of an aspect ratio of the image, a color distribution information of the image, a brightness distribution information of the image, and an edge distribution information of the image.

15. (Previously Presented) The electronic information management method according to claim 12, wherein whether the electronic information is to be deleted is decided

based on the client-specified condition including a condition that a first symbol encoded in the image corresponds to a second symbol associated with the electronic information.

16. (Previously Presented) The electronic information management method according to claim 12, wherein whether the electronic information is to be deleted is decided by obtaining a feature of a second image similar to the image.

17. (Original) The electronic information management method according to claim 12, wherein other electronic information related to specific electronic information is also decided as a deletion object together with the specific electronic information decided to be deleted based on the feature.

18. (Previously Presented) An electronic information management method according to claim 12, further comprising:

temporarily storing electronic information sent from a network; and

deleting unnecessary temporarily stored electronic information at a predetermined timing.

19. (Previously Presented) The electronic information management method according to claim 18, wherein the unnecessary temporarily stored electronic information is deleted after a predetermined period of time has elapsed.

20. (Previously Presented) The electronic information management method according to claim 18, wherein the unnecessary temporarily stored electronic information is deleted based on an instruction from a sender of the electronic information.

21. (Original) The electronic information management method according to claim 18, wherein the temporarily stored electronic information is transferred based on an instruction from a sender of the electronic information.

22. (Currently Amended) An electronic information management method according to claim 12,~~claim 12,~~ further comprising:

inputting a feature associated with the electronic information to be deleted; and

giving a deletion execution instruction to unnecessary electronic information that is to be deleted and extracted from the storing means according to the input feature.

23. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) An electronic information management method for classifying and storing~~retrieving~~ documents, comprising:

inputting a feature associated with electronic information found in a document from terminal equipment and extracting information to be deleted from the electronic information stored in storing means of the terminal equipment; and

deleting unnecessary electronic information that is extracted as the deletion object from the storing means, according to an instruction from the terminal ~~equipment.~~equipment, the deleting including deleting information that matches a predetermined condition, wherein:

one or more documents are classified by the feature,

the feature is at least one of a title of a document, a creation date of the document, a creator of the document, a file name of the document, an application name under which the document is created, a document keyword and a full text of the document, and

one or more documents containing unnecessary electronic information are deleted from the storing means.

24. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) An electronic information management method for classifying and storing~~retrieving~~ documents, comprising:

inputting a feature associated with electronic information found in a document from terminal equipment and extracting information to be deleted from the electronic information stored in storing means of the terminal equipment;

transferring the electronic information extracted as the deletion object from the storing means to a temporary storage server via a network according to an instruction from the terminal equipment; and

deleting unnecessary transferred electronic information from the storing ~~means.~~means, the deleting including deleting information that matches a predetermined condition, wherein:

one or more documents are classified by the feature,

the feature is at least one of a title of a document, a creation date of the document, a creator of the document, a file name of the document, an application name under which the document is created, a document keyword and a full text of the document, and

one or more documents containing unnecessary electronic information are deleted from the storing means.

25. (Withdrawn) The electronic information management method according to claim 24, wherein a deletion timing of the electronic information stored in the temporary storage server is instructed by the terminal equipment.

26. (Withdrawn) The electronic information management method according to claim 24, wherein a transfer of electronic information stored in the temporary storage server to the terminal equipment is instructed by the terminal equipment.

27. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) An electronic information management method for classifying and storing~~retrieving~~ documents, comprising:

accepting an input of a feature associated with electronic information found in a document from terminal equipment and extracting information to be deleted from the electronic information stored in storing means of the terminal equipment; and

deleting unnecessary electronic information that is extracted as the deletion object from the storing means, according to an instruction from the terminal ~~equipment.~~equipment, the deleting including deleting information that matches a predetermined condition, wherein:

one or more documents are classified by the feature,

the feature is at least one of a title of a document, a creation date of the document, a creator of the document, a file name of the document, an application name under which the document is created, a document keyword and a full text of the document, and

one or more documents containing unnecessary electronic information are deleted from the storing means.

28. (Currently Amended) A recording medium readable by a computer, recording a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform an electronic information management method, the method comprising:

extracting at least one ~~extracting a~~ feature of an image of a document, the extracted feature associated with electronic information stored in storing means connected to a network;

deciding whether the electronic information is to be deleted based on the feature previously extracted based on an instruction from a client; and

deleting from the storing means via a network and via a deletion method specified by the client unnecessary electronic information that is decided to be deleted, the deleting includes deleting electronic information that matches a predetermined ~~condition.~~ condition, wherein:

one or more documents are classified by the extracted feature,

the extracted feature is at least one of a title of a document, a creation date of the document, a creator of the document, a file name of the document, an application name under which the document is created, a document keyword and a full text of the document, and

one or more documents containing unnecessary electronic information are deleted from the storing means.

29. (Previously Presented) The recording medium according to claim 28, further comprising:

storing electronic information sent via a network in temporary storing means; and

deleting unnecessary electronic information stored in the temporary storing means at a predetermined timing.

30. (Currently Amended) A recording medium readable by a computer, recording a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform an electronic information management method for classifying and storing~~retrieving~~ documents, when electronic information stored in storing means connected to a network is deleted, the method comprising:

accepting a condition from a client;

accepting at least one ~~accepting a~~ feature of an image of a document, the feature associated with the electronic information to be deleted; and

accepting a deletion execution instruction via a deletion method specified by the client for unnecessary electronic information that is to be deleted and extracted from the storing means according to the accepted feature and to the accepted condition, the deletion method further ~~includes~~including deleting electronic information that matches a predetermined condition; wherein:

~~wherein~~ one or more documents are classified by the feature,

the feature is at least one of an aspect ratio of the image, a color distribution information of the image, a brightness distribution information of the image, ~~and~~ an edge distribution information of the ~~image.~~image, a title of a document, a creation date of the document, a creator of the document, a file name of the document, an application name under which the document is created, a document keyword and a full text of the document, and

one or more documents containing unnecessary electronic information are deleted from the storing means.

31. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A recording medium readable by a computer, recording a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform an electronic information management method for classifying and storing~~retrieving~~ documents, the method comprising:

accepting an input of a feature associated with electronic information found in a document from terminal equipment and extracting information to be deleted from the electronic information stored in storing means of the terminal equipment; and

transferring the electronic information extracted as the deletion object from the storing means to a temporary storage server via a network according to an instruction from the terminal equipment and deleting unnecessary transferred electronic information from the storing ~~means.~~means, the deleting including deleting electronic information that matches a predetermined condition; wherein:

one or more documents are classified by the feature,

the feature is at least one of an aspect ratio of the image, a color distribution information of the image, a brightness distribution information of the image, an edge distribution information of the image, a title of a document, a creation date of the

document, a creator of the document, a file name of the document, an application name under which the document is created, a document keyword and a full text of the document, and one or more documents containing unnecessary electronic information are deleted from the storing means.